

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 12133 041711Z

64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 IO-14 NIC-01 ACDA-19

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 TRSE-00 EB-11

CIEP-03 DRC-01 /152 W

----- 022727

R 041606Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6704

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 12133

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: COMMUNISTS EYE POSSIBLE ROLE IN GOVERNING PROCESS

REF: ROME 11756

1. SUMMARY. LEADING ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PCI) OFFICIALS HAVE ENTERED THE PUBLIC DEBATE ON THE MAJOR ISSUES FACING THE COUNTRY, ESPECIALLY THE QUESTION OF THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE PCI TO THE GOVERNMENT, AS THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN ITALY CONTINUES TO HEAT UP. THE PARTY SPOKESMEN HAVE, FOR THE PRESENT MOMENT, STEERED CLEAR OF SETTING FORTH THE PRECISE PCI OBJECTIVES, BUT THEY ARE STRESSING THAT THE TIME HAS COME WHEN THE VOICE OF THE PCI MUST BE FELT IN THE ITALIAN GOVERNING PROCESS. END SUMMARY.

2. NOT UNEXPECTEDLY SENIOR PCI OFFICIALS HAVE ENTERED THE PUBLIC DEBATE WHICH HAS BEEN BUILDING UP IN RECENT WEEKS AS THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS CONFRONTING THE COUNTRY CONTINUE TO GROW. CENTRAL TO THE CURRENT DEBATE, AND A THEME, TO WHICH THE PCI LEADERS HAVE ADDRESSED THEMSELVES, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 12133 041711Z

IS THE ROLE THE PARTY SHOULD PLAY IN THE ITALIAN GOVERNING

PROCESS.

3. THE THRUST OF THE STATEMENTS FROM PCI LEADERS SUCH AS AMENDOLA, GALLUZZI, AND COSSUTTA IS THAT THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CRISIS CONFRONTING THE COUNTRY AT THIS POINT IS SO SERIOUS THAT IT CAN ONLY BE RESOLVED THROUGH THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF THE MAJOR DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING THE COMMUNISTS. EMPHASIZING THIS POINT IN AN EDITORIAL WRITTEN FOR L'UNITA ON SEPTEMBER 1, CARLO GALLUZZI, A MEMBER OF THE PARTY'S DIRECTORATE, NOTED THAT THE CURRENT DEBATERECOGNIZES QUOTE THE FULL RIGHT OF THE FORCE REPRESENTED BY THE PCI TO PARTICIPATE IN THE POLITICAL DIRECTION OF THE COUNTRY END QUOTE.

4. TO DATE THE PCI SPOKESMEN HAVE ASSIDUOUSLY AVOIDED DEFINING PUBLICLY THE PRECISE ROLE WHICH THE PARTY ACTUALLY WANTS TO PLAY IN THE ITALIAN GOVERNING PROCESS. NOT ONE OF THESE LEADERS HAS ISSUED A DIRECT CALL FOR PCI INCLUSION IN ANY SUCCESSOR TO THE PRESENT RUMOR GOVERNMENT. THE LEADERS DO SUGGEST, HOWEVER, THAT A PRICE WILL HAVE TO BE PAID FOR PCI COOPERATION IN THE GOVERNING PROCESS, EITHER FROM WITHIN A GOVERNING COALITION OR THROUGH A CONSULTATIVE ROLE. DEFINING THIS PRICE IN AN INTERVIEW WITH A CORRESPONDENT OF IL MONDO, PUBLISHED IN THE SEPTEMBER 12 ISSUE, GIORGIO AMENDOLA, A SENIOR MEMBER OF THE PCI'S POLITICAL OFFICE, STATED THAT THE PCI SEES QUOTE THE NEED TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM OF NATIONAL RENEWAL THAT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT BOTH FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC POLICY END QUOTE.

5. COMMENT. THE CURRENT PUBLIC DEBATE, ERUPTING AS IT HAS WITH THE THREAT OF A NEW GOVERNMENTAL CRISIS CONFRONTING THE NATION, HAS PROVIDED THE PCI WITH A USEFUL PEG UPON WHICH TO ADVANCE ITS CLAIM THAT IT SHOULD BE BROUGHT EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY INTO THE ITALIAN GOVERNING PROCESS. RECOGNIZING THE RISKS FOR THE PARTY OF ACTUALLY ENTERING INTO A GOVERNING COALITION AT A TIME WHEN THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF THE COUNTRY IS AT STAKE, THE SPOKESMEN DO NOT GO BEYOND REFLECTING THE PARTY LEADERSHIP'S INTEREST IN JOCKEYING FOR POSITION AT A TIME OF MAJOR POLITICAL UNCERTAINTY. NEVERTHELESS, THE PCI'S PRESENT ARGUMENTS ARE A LOGICAL FOLLOW-ON TO PARTY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ROME 12133 041711Z

SECRETARY GENERAL BERLINGUER'S CALL OF LAST FALL FOR A HISTORICAL COMPROMISE BETWEEN THE MAJOR ITALIAN POLITICAL FORCES. THE PRESENT SITUATION ENABLES THE PCI LEADERSHIP TO ASSERT TO THE NATION THAT EVENTS ARE PROVING THE CORRECTNESS OF BERLINGUER'S THEORY THAT THE PCI MUST INEVITABLY BE DRAWN INTO THE MAINSTREAM OF ITALIAN POLITICAL LIFE. VOLPE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REFORM, POLICIES, COMMUNIST FRONT ORGANIZATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, POLITICAL LEADERS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ROME12133
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P760032-0791, D740245-0521
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740976/aaaaclyw.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 74 ROME 11756, ROME 11756
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <27 FEB 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMUNISTS EYE POSSIBLE ROLE IN GOVERNING PROCESS
TAGS: PINT, IT, PCI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005